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HOUSE BILL 1540 By
McDaniel

SENATE BILL 1720
By Clabough

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, relative to
redistricting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by
adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

Section 3-1-115. In any redistricting, the Tennessee general assembly shall
apply the following standards:

(1) As to congressional districts, each district shall be equal in population
to each other congressional district;

(2) As to legislative districts, each district shall have a population of no
more than five percent (5%) greater or less than the ideal district size, calculated
by dividing the total population by the total number of districts;

(3) As to all districts, the general assembly shall use the population
numbers designated by the United States Department of Commerce Bureau of
the Census as the official numbers;

(4) In all districts, the general assembly shall draw districts so as to avoid the dilution of minority voting strength;

(5) In legislative districts, the general assembly shall comply to the greatest extent possible with the provisions of Article II, Section 5 of the Constitution of Tennessee consistent with the requirements of items (2) and (4);

(6) In all districts, the general assembly shall draw districts which are compact and contiguous; and

(7) In all districts, the general assembly shall draw districts which do not divide local political subdivision lines, except as is necessary to satisfy the requirements of items (1), (2) or (4).

SECTION 2. This act shall become law July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.